

A Short Intro to the JIPMER REDCap Project

What is REDCap?

REDCap stands for **R**esearch **E**lectronic **D**ata **C**apture. It is a web browser based software designed at Vanderbilt University for collecting research data.

- It is a safe and secure web application for building and managing online surveys and databases.
- It can be used to collect, store and analyse any type of data but it is specifically designed for research studies and operations.
- It can be used to from any device connected to the internet to collect data by logging into a REDCap account with a web browser.
- It has a mobile application which can be used to collect data on-site (in the field) even without any internet connection.
- The data can later be uploaded to the database (project) when the mobile is connected to the internet.

(Visit the [Official REDCap Project Website](#) for more information.)

What is the JIPMER REDCap Project?

JIPMER has been granted a license to use the REDCap software and has a functioning server that can be accessed through the internet ([JIPMER-REDCap Website](#)). This project is an attempt to make data collection easier and more reliable for all kinds of research done in JIPMER.

Why should I use REDcap?

In addition to the advantages of using REDCap mentioned above, here are a few more:

- Although, most students and quite a few faculty members continue to use Excel, Google Sheets (and a number of other software) to collect their data due to familiarity and easy access to these tools, they have to compromise the data quality and have a major risk of data corruption/loss.
- The data collected via these software have the drawback of not being easy to analyse in standard statistical software like R, Stata, SPSS etc.,.
- REDCap, on the other hand, allows reliable data collection and export of the data in a format that makes it easy for analysis by statistical packages.
- REDCap has a robust auditing system that tracks all changes done to the data and allows guides to ensure that data has not been manipulated.
- Multiple users can enter data into the same project without accidentally overwriting previous data.

Can I get a REDCap account?

All JIPMER students (UG and PG) and Faculty (Academic and Non-Academic) are eligible for a JIPMER-REDCap account.

How do I apply for a JIPMER-REDCap account?

Visit the [JIPMER-REDCap Website](#) and click on the "[APPLY FOR REDCap ACCESS](#)". This will open a Google Sheet where you can enter the relevant details and upload a copy of your JIPMER ID card. Once the site admin confirms your account, you will receive an email with a link to activate your account and set a password. Once you set the password, you can log in and start using REDCap.

Where can I learn how to use REDCap?

There are many online resources with helpful guides (both text and videos) which can help you to quickly start with your first REDCap project.

There are currently no formal training sessions for REDCap. Please consult your guide or colleague who has been using REDCap if needed.

I have already used REDCap before/in my previous institute/hospital. Can I migrate the data from my previous project/thesis to my JIPMER-REDCap account?

Yes, you can 'export the data from your previous project and 'import' it into your new account/project. This requires a little more knowledge and experience with REDCap than starting a new project.

I have queries about REDCap/problems in accessing my account. Whom do I contact?

You can contact the [JIPMER Website Admin](#) for account (re)activation.

You can contact the [JIPMER REDCap Admin](#) for assistance in any REDCap related doubts/problems.